

New display for Homer Watson

The art gallery is introducing a new exhibit being dubbed 'unbelievable.'



Monday, March 1, 2004

Feature 8

Spoke

Conestoga College, Kitchener

Conestoga faculty vote in favour of strike

College results coincide with provincial outcome

By JAMES DOYLE

On Feb. 17, college faculty and staff across Ontario voted yes to give their union the mandate to strike.

The 8,500 teachers, counsellors and librarians voted 74.5 per cent in favour of going on strike if a deal is not reached by March 3.

Teachers, who have been without a contract since August, are looking for a pay increase that would put their wages between the maximum high school teacher's salary and the minimum university professor's. Workload is another issue, as are benefits and staffing questions.

Eighty per cent of Conestoga's teachers voted, with 76 per cent in favour of a strike.

"The strong strike vote will let the bargaining team go back to the table between now and March 3 with the power to negotiate a fair settlement," said Ted Montgomery, chair of the union bargaining team.

Conestoga College president John Tibbits is still optimistic that a settlement can be reached before the March 3 deadline.

"I really am hoping there will be more discussions. I don't see why we can't get something done."



Tibbits

There were no new negotiations scheduled prior to press time. However, local OPSEU presidents did meet in Toronto Feb. 21.

Faculty previously went on strike in 1984 and 1989. The '84 strike lasted 24 days while the '89 strike lasted 20 days. No school year has been lost to a teacher strike.



(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

Rockin' the Sanctuary

Bands brought some rock to the Sanctuary Friday the 13th. Above, Moonraker took the stage for the 80 people in attendance. Other bands included Vacuity and Asher. For full story and photos see Page 9.

Frosh week could come to Conestoga

By CHRISTINA BRAMBURGER

Conestoga Students Inc. is pushing for a frosh week for the students of Conestoga.

This wouldn't be your typical beer-chugging contest that some may picture when they hear those two magical words together.

The college wants to avoid the alcohol, drinking, hazing and premature thoughts of what a frosh week entails.

That is a bad situation for the college to participate in, says CSI president Justin Falconer.

"What I do think we have is an opportunity to improve retention at the school."

There have been countless studies done that say when a student comes to college, the faster they feel welcome and connected, the more likely they are to stay, even when they struggle.

If the student knows that he or she can go and talk to someone, or they know someone, or they can hang out with someone, they stay in school, Falconer explains.

"People who feel unconnected generally leave the school."

Frosh week would concentrate on

connecting students.

"It's in CSI's mission statement to create a connected environment and this is something we definitely want to do," says Falconer.

"When I say, 'frosh week,' I don't necessarily think it's going to be this week-long thing and there's going to be purple Kool-Aid out on Slip-n-Slides ... The activities are the least important to designing a frosh week, it's the objective and it's the purpose that is the most important."

A frosh week would have to be very complementary to the existing orientation week. After all, it could use a splash of excitement, a hint of activity and a dash of spirit.

"Student retention, student development and student success all tie together," says Falconer.

"It's short-sightedness to think that student activities and events can't complement institutional policy and process. I think they go hand in hand."

This could be an opportunity to involve all areas of Conestoga College and try to develop something that's going to be successful for everyone. Everyone is here for the same reason, Falconer says.

"We're all here to see the students start in day one and go to their graduation."

There should be an open dialogue in the college about the possibility of a frosh week, and all areas should be invited to participate and communicate about what a possible week of activities could be for students.

"How do we complement the success of a pond party and draw that out for a week-long celebration of student involvement, student participation and the growth of student life?" Falconer asks.

If students can get involved in CSI, peer services and residence on day one, that's going to be great, he says.

"Those are the students who stay involved, who graduate, who love their experiences and go out and are great ambassadors to our community."

It has to be a mandate from the college to get this going by September.

"I think we need the college to legitimize that this is a good idea," says Falconer.

"If not, we're going to peck away at this slowly."

Conestoga gets a lesson in intimacy

Josey Vogels brings a little sex talk to the Sanctuary.

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Bye Bye Barbie

After 43 wonderful years Ken and the famed doll call it quits.

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Falconer gets nod as CSI president

By CARRIE HOTO

Justin Falconer will reign as president of Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) for a second term.

In a meeting on Feb. 17, the CSI's board of directors chose a new president for the May 2004 to April 2005 term.

In Falconer's speech he said, "Students want to build their association. They want CSI to understand and help them achieve their potential. They want us to get it. Well, madam, co-chairs and fellow directors, this nominee does get it."

Falconer's platform focused on closing the gap between the satellite campuses, fun and exciting events, and opportunities for student employment.

"It's a tremendous compliment to know that your peers, the people you have been working closely with for the last four or five months, have the confidence in you to do another term. And I think it's the ultimate compliment that we are working in the right direction and we do realize that there are things we do need to correct," said Falconer after hearing he had the majority of the directors' support.

The other two candidates running for the position were Ethan Miller, the current vice-president of activities and a third-year business management student, and Scott Ingram-Cotton, who sits on the board of directors and is a third-year civil engineering student. Each contender was given 15 minutes to speak, and then participated in a question period.

"I look forward to greater student involvement in the coming term and I think we all have a lot to work forward to," Falconer said.

"We're going in the right direction and CSI is going to get better. It's going to be better for students and there's going to be a lot of significant changes this coming fall; we have a lot to look forward to."

Errant vehicles on pathways pose safety risk

By CARLA SANDHAM

Action is being taken to stop motorists from driving on the walking paths around the college.

After posts, which blocked the paths' entrances, were removed in November to allow for snow removal, several cars have been caught driving along them.

College employees expressed concern at college council Feb. 9

after they recently saw three vehicles enter the path at the Early Childhood Education Centre and exit at Door 5.

And in a rumoured incident, a college employee was almost hit by a car on the pathway several months ago.

"Something needs to be done," said John Tibbits, president of Conestoga College, at college council. One employee at the meet-

ing asked that the signs before the path entrance at the Early Childhood Education Centre be changed.

The current signs spell out no motorized vehicles, but the employee suggested they be international driving signs (a picture of a vehicle with a slash through it) and lowered for easier visibility.

"Each year we do a review of the signage around the college," said

Barry Milner, manager of physical resources.

"We will be looking at upgrading those on the pathways."

Milner added they would be putting up the posts again in the spring.

Tibbits said this is an ongoing issue and they will discuss more permanent solutions besides the posts, which cannot be kept in during the winter months.

Now deep thoughts ...with Conestoga College

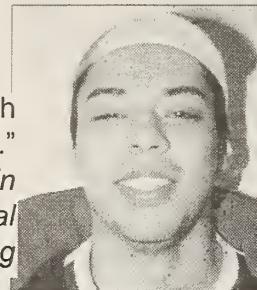
Random questions answered by random students

What is your fantasy dream job?



"I want to be captain for a 737 for British Airways."

*Bonnie Fisher
Program: Aviation*



"A Spanish version of Hugh Hefner."

*Edwin Larin
Program: Mechanical Engineering*



"I would love to be an assistant to Kelly Clarkson."

*Erin Watson
Program: Social Services*



"To be a rock star."

*Dave Huber
Program: Broadcasting*



"A back-up goaltender for Toronto."

*Brandon Rieck
Program: Engineering*



"A flight attendant for Air Canada."

*Taryn Hardy
Program: Aviation*

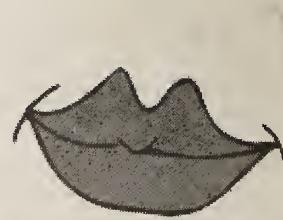


"To own my own recreation centre."

*Wim Gerritsen
Program: Recreation and Leisure*

Smile Conestoga, you could be our next respondent!

Valentine's Day sealed with a



By JENNIFER HOWDEN

On Feb. 13 students had the chance to buy their sweetheart carnations for Valentine's Day.

The department of development and alumni services held Sealed with Alumni Kisses (SWAK) where they sold carnations to Conestoga students.

"We did it to create awareness of the alumni services. We want to let people know that we're around and what we're all about," said Monica Himmelman, director of the department of development and alumni services.

"Plus, it's a fun thing to do for Valentine's Day."

The carnations, which came in red, white or pink, were sold for \$2 each or three for \$5.

Each flower also came with two Hershey Kisses.

The event was a huge success, with all 250 flowers being sold for the fourth year in a row.

According to Himmelman, the event has been going on for at least eight years.

There were 10 people who volunteered at the event. They were Laurie Doersam, Justin Falconer, Carie Laycock, Holly O'Neill, Kitty Runstedler, Antranik Tchhalekian, Margie Williams, Jessica Wismer, Monica Himmelman and Cliff the Condor.



(Photo by Jennifer Howden)

Cliff shows one of the carnations that were sold on Feb. 13. The carnations were part of Sealed with Alumni Kisses, put on by the department of development and alumni relations.

Conestoga becomes a member of IAAP

By DAWN HASSON

Have you ever wanted to talk to people who work in the field you chose and find out what it's really like?

Students in information technology support services and students in office administration can.

As of Jan. 30, Conestoga College became a member of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), as well as the Grand River chapter, which is a year old.

IAAP is a non-profit association that provides information, education and training to support the business community. They are a recognized leader of administrative professionals. IAAP has 40,000 members worldwide and more than 600 chapters.

The chapter the college belongs to is the Grand River chapter, which covers Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge and Guelph.

The college has an associate membership. This is for an individual, firm or educational institution that carries out the objectives of IAAP, according to the IAAP membership application form. The association was founded in 1942.

"They've been around for ages," said Sheila Hyslop, the program co-ordinator for office administration and information technology.

James Weare, a professor in office administration and information technology support services, is

the only one who can vote on behalf of the college, but students and faculty can attend the monthly meetings as guests.

"I think it's a good thing for students to have that kind of connection," said Weare. "They know a lot about the latest techniques."

Hyslop attends the meetings once a month with Weare, and they enjoy seeing students "networking."

"What we've been doing when going to the meetings is not sitting with the students and just having a table of students and faculty," said Hyslop. "Jim (Weare) and I split up and take a couple of students with us we haven't met before. It gives students the opportunity to network with individuals in the industry."

Both Hyslop and Weare think it is a great opportunity for students.

"By talking to someone who's been at a company for 15 to 20 years, you (students) can really find out overall what it's going to be like," said Hyslop. "As an office administrator, if you went out and got a job over the summer working in an office, you can't know from that one experience what it's going to be like."

Brian Harvey, the chair of the school of business program, said it is an excellent opportunity for office administrative students to be taught under the same organization the business students have joined.

"Students can meet people who are out in the field, working in those jobs, and find out how the

organization functions," said Harvey.

There is a sign-up sheet outside the school of business office in room 1D20 for anyone who wishes to attend a monthly meeting.

The meeting itself is \$5, the meeting and dinner is \$20. IAAP schedules a guest speaker for each meeting.

"The last one was a motivational speaker on stress in the workforce," said Hyslop. The president of the Grand River chapter, Lina Veglia, works towards providing office administration experience to students.

"We offer encouragement, guidance and programs with regards to administrative correspondents," said Veglia. "We hope to provide students with a look into the administrative profession."

The office administration and information technology support services programs are now two years long and have been divided into three sections.

These are a general administrative section, an executive level for administrative assistants and the information technology support services.

IAAP has plans in the works to provide a scholarship to students at this year's graduation. The winner may be able to attend the meetings for free, but this is still tentative.

The organization also has plans to run a workshop April 17, but details are still pending.

College's security staff kept on their toes

By DAWN HASSON

A failed fire alarm, a car theft and missing wallets are all in a week's work for staff at the security department.

Two wallets were stolen from the recreation centre in early February. A student who was working out in the gym left his pants in a tote bag, with his wallet in the pocket. The pants and wallet were missing when he came back for them.

"We haven't had any problems for many, many months up there so it's a bit of an unusual circumstance," said Al Hunter, chief of security and parking services.

The second wallet was taken from an unlocked locker.

Hunter encourages students to lock up their valuables when they are in the recreation centre, or anywhere else, for that matter.

"The first thing we try and do is to get the word out so more people are aware of it. We've certainly alerted staff who work at the recreation centre to the fact that we've had the problem so they can be vigilant," Hunter said.

"We also let the support staff (physical resources staff) that work around the building know because they have a strong sense of the building and who works around

the building. They are an extra set of eyes and ears for us."

Hunter doesn't think a student was responsible for the thefts.

"From time to time, I think any college, university, racket club, fitness club, those types of environments, tend to have people wander in when they can. They shouldn't be able to just wander in but with the volume of people we have going through the recreation centre it's possible that someone can slip in," said Hunter. "Or sometimes a student can prop open a door."

As for the students getting their wallets back, they might if there are no valuables in them, according to Hunter.

Credit cards are obviously a main concern. If anyone loses their wallet, and they have credit cards in there, they need to notify their respective bank as quickly as possible. Otherwise, they may be held accountable for usage of the card," Hunter said.

Wallets aren't the only things being stolen.

On Feb. 9, a stereo was taken from a vehicle in Lot 10.

"That's the first theft we've had reported from a vehicle this year, since the cameras were installed," said Hunter.



(Photo by Dawn Hasson)

A stereo was stolen from a car in the front row of Lot 10 by the meters on Feb. 9.

The closed-circuit television cameras were installed in December. They allow security staff to view more area and zoom in on certain areas. "Since the cameras went in, frankly, our incidents with vehicle-related thefts have dropped way down," said Hunter.

The theft occurred in the evening

hours, as opposed to between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. when most of the thefts take place.

"We don't typically have thefts from vehicles in the evening," said Hunter.

Security staff also had to deal with a fire alarm in the E-wing that went off during lunch hour on Feb.

12. It was a technical glitch.

"Our electrician had taken that part off the system to work on the system and the bell should not have sounded," said Hunter. "Unfortunately, there was a problem in the system."

Students were brought back into the school as quickly as possible.

Conestoga's first employee will be missed by many as he bids farewell

By RYAN CONNELL

A new resource has been established for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students at Conestoga College.

A message board in the hallway near the E wing provides information, articles and upcoming events in the community and at the college that are related to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) community.

Tam Maher, president of the GLBT club called Conestoga Pride, said she started the message board so she could help generate more exposure for the club and the community.

"We thought it would be helpful to those who are interested in the club or GLBT issues but couldn't come to the meetings," she said.

Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) was more than helpful in giving Maher a message board for the club.



(Photo by Ryan Connell)

Tam Maher, president of the CSI-funded GLBT club, posts gay-related news articles and calendars showing GLBT activities at the college and in the community.

"Students have now come forward and shown a lot of initiative so obviously we are going to accommodate them as much as we can."

The GLBT club is the second CSI-funded club to have its own message board. The Optimist Club also has its own message board with events and information posted.

Egleston said many other clubs that they sponsor don't have message boards simply because they haven't asked for one, so the CSI has never had to decide what clubs deserve message boards.

Maher is encouraged by how much support the club has been

receiving from the college and CSI.

"So far there has been little negative reaction. If anything is removed from the message board, we just put another up to replace it," Maher said. "We will not be discouraged."

The GLBT message board also promotes the club's new website which is another resource for students, promoting club events, community events, coming out information, links and other resources, as well as books, movies and magazine reviews. The website can be accessed at www.geocities.com/glbtconestoga.

By CARLA SANDHAM

The first employee hired at Conestoga College is now easing into retirement more than three decades later.

David Putt, director of physical resources, has served the college for 37 years, but at the end of March, he will retire from being a full-time employee.

He will, however, remain on contract with the college as a part-time employee.

"As far as Dave's concerned there is no finer place than Conestoga College," said Barry Milner, manager of physical resources and Putt's co-worker. "He always has the college at heart."

Putt, a professional engineer, was hired as a faculty member in 1967 the first year Conestoga was established as an applied arts and technology college.

Putt has also been the dean of technology and of Doon campus, co-ordinated the electrical program and was the manager of strategic projects.

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of academics and finance, has worked with Putt for 29 years.

"He is a very organized individual and his professionalism definitely shows in his work," he said.

Through the years, Putt has overseen the construction of C-wing, E-wing, the woodworking centre as well as most other campus renovations.

He has helped the college expand and evolve from an applied arts and technology school to an Institute of

Technology and Advanced Learning.

"He is always thinking ahead to the next project and how it can be improved from the last," said Milner, adding Putt is a fantastic individual to work with.

"Who else can you find with a collection of chicken and bird toys in his office?"

Barry Milner,
manager of physical resources

Putt has also saved the college hundreds of thousands of dollars, said Milner, through energy management upgrades and sensible designs.

And while his designs may be sensible, Milner said Putt is a "funny guy" with a good sense of humour.

"Who else can you find with a collection of chicken and bird toys in his office?" Milner asked, pointing to a plastic chicken Putt had kept after someone gave it to him as a joke.

John Tibbits, president of Conestoga College, also said Putt is a character, but a hard-worker when it comes to getting a project done.

"He is leaving on the best of terms," said Tibbits. "And he will be called back when we renovate and expand again."

Putt declined to be interviewed for the story.

"It's kind of a revolutionary thing and it's going with the times."

Sam Egleston,
CSI communications specialist

CSI's communications specialist Sam Egleston said the college hasn't had a GLBT club like other colleges do such as George Brown and Humber College, until this year.

"Conestoga, up to this point, has kind of been left behind. It's kind of a revolutionary thing and it's going with the times," Egleston said.

Music industry should do their own dirty work

It may be time for you music lovers to shut down Kazaa for a while.

Paranoia is sweeping across the Web after it was announced that the Canadian Recording Industry Association (CRIA) has plans to crack down on those people who share music over the Internet.

The CRIA has asked a judge to force at least five major Internet providers — including Rogers Hi-Speed, Bell Sympatico, Tellus, Shaw Communications and Videotron — to disclose the identities of 29 customers who share music through their service. The announcement was made last December that charges will be laid against the music-swappers in question and it looks as though there is a good chance this will come to pass.

The companies have been served court materials informing them of the situation. Customer service representatives for the Internet providers have been asked to advise customers that they have no further information regarding who is on the list or whether or not names will be released, as this is a decision that the court will make.

Feeling nervous yet?

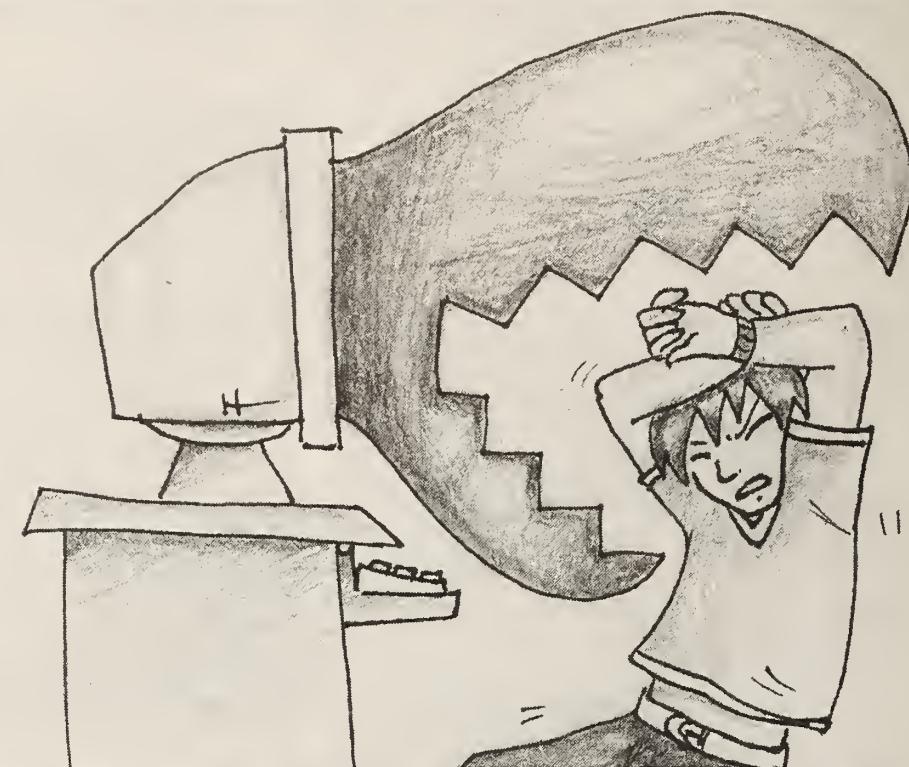
It's comforting to know that at least a couple of the companies will stand by their privacy regulations until ordered by the court to give up the information. This is personal data that, in any other situation, would be completely illegal to disclose. Representatives cannot even discuss the most seemingly insignificant aspects of a customer's account with someone else without the subscriber's permission. With such strict protocols it's fitting to see these corporations fighting back.

We all remember last September when the American version of the CRIA — the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) — set its sights on 261 music-swappers, most notably a 12-year-old girl from New York. The RIAA had requested the identities of 150 Charter Communications customers, which lead to Charter filing a federal lawsuit in an attempt to block those names from the recording industry. Whether or not Canadian Internet providers follow suit is yet to be determined.

At least 400 people in the U.S. have already been sued by the RIAA.

This is not just an issue of morals and theft; it has also become a matter of privacy and security. It is unjust to ask these companies to violate the trust of their customers — especially if it's to be used as a means to sue them. These companies have a contract with their customers that gives them a certain amount of security within that corporation. Even if these kinds of situations aren't written in stone between the customer and the Internet provider, there should be some kind of regulations making very clear to the customer that their personal information could be used against them.

If the recording industry wants to fight copyright infringement, they should start looking for a means of getting the information they need more directly, rather than trying to weasel it out of the companies whose first responsibility should be the security of their customers.



Just when you thought the Internet was a safe place...

Students lose right to vote

President of CSI now chosen by board of directors

Students no longer have the option of voting for their Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) president.

Since this person is working for the students, should they not be chosen directly by us?

CSI president Justin Falconer says the student body still has decision-making power because they're voting for the board of directors who, in turn, choose the president.

"It was a unanimous agreement that this was the right thing to do," Falconer said in an interview Feb. 17. He added many students don't know much about the candidates and it becomes a popularity vote.

Here's a question; do you really think people know more about the board of directors they're voting in than they know about the president?

The people who don't bother to learn anything about the president aren't likely to learn much about



Rebecca Learn

Opinion

the board of directors either.

So, in effect, there is still going to be a group of people voted in who many students are just randomly voting for. The only difference is now these people are choosing the president.

"You don't get elected to have a lot of friends and go to cool parties."

*Justin Falconer,
CSI president*

This process doesn't seem to be much of an improvement.

"You don't get elected to have a

lot of friends and go to cool parties," Falconer said. Although, if we are not part of the process, how can we trust that the right person will be chosen?

I do give the CSI credit that they are trying to have a responsible person elected who will take the job seriously and represent the students well. But, I don't think the way to go about it is to take the students' choice away.

Maybe there is a way for us to learn more about the candidates, such as a debate in the cafeteria at a time when many people will be there to hear the candidates' views.

Making the student body more involved rather than less involved is the perfect way to help them realize the importance of their decision.

If they can hear the different ideas and points of view, I think that it will make them feel more included in the process and more people would come out to vote.

Letters are welcome



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Writers will be contacted for verification.

No unsigned letters will be published. Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Spoke reserves the right to edit any letter for publication.

Address correspondence to:
The Editor, Spoke, 299 Doon Valley Dr.,
Room 4B14, Kitchener, Ont.,
N2G 4M4

Spoke

Is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College

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Production Managers: Petr Cihacek,
Kate VandeVen

Editor: Blake Gall

Spoke Online Editor: Lesley Leachman
Circulation Manager: Jason Noe

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Guelph campus helps sick girl

By RYAN CONNELL

Conestoga College's Guelph campus is helping raise money for a sick young girl with an inoperable brain tumour.

Posters have been put up all over the campus encouraging students to donate money to the charitable cause.

Also, jars have been placed at the front office and in the cafeteria by the cash register where students can donate their spare change.

Three-year-old Hope Monaghan, of Puslinch Township, was diagnosed in early October with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, a rare inoperable brain tumour located in the middle of the brain stem. Hope's prognosis is poor.

Natasha Price, an academic preparation upgrading student who is planning to enroll in an ECE program, decided to get the Guelph campus involved in raising money for the family after reading in Spoke about donations being accepted at the Conestoga Residence and Conference Centre and the Doon campus's recreation centre.

"I was wondering why our campus couldn't do something to get involved. I love kids and to hear about this young girl really touched me," said Price, who doesn't have children of her own yet.

The proceeds will help Hope's family offset the many expenses associated with Hope's care and treatments, including her continuous visits to Toronto's Hospital for

Sick Children.

Judith Bali, a faculty member of the academic upgrade and career search program at the Guelph campus, said students on the campus have been generous.

"The jars have been put in places where everybody in the school walks by. The fact that, in a matter of two days, she (Price) had collected \$70 shows that people are responding," Bali said.

Price has now raised close to \$100 from students and faculty.

"People are giving loonies, toonies and dollar bills; that's really excellent," said Price. "Every little bit helps."

The Children's Wish Foundation also recently arranged a family trip for Hope and her brother, Jonah, to go to Disney World in Florida.

No more earphones

By DARREN SMITH

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) will no longer be supplying students with earphones after March 1.

The LRC is requiring students to provide their own earphones due to health concerns.

Morgan Bartlett works in the educational technology section of the LRC and said they are concerned with anything that may be transferable, especially through the hair.

"We don't know what is going around and we just want to protect

the students," said Bartlett.

There will be a box where earphones are used that will take both 1/4 - and 1/8 - inch plugs.

The 1/8 - inch jacks are those found on computer systems, CD, MP3 players, and cassette decks.

Most students have their own headphones but the bookstore is selling them Bartlett said.

He is not aware of any problems associated with headphone usage in the LRC, but said the policy is being implemented because someone noted it as a concern in one of the suggestion boxes.



(Photo by Darren Smith)

Be safe when crossing streets Some drivers may not be paying attention

By MICHELLE TAYLOR

Pedestrian crosswalks exist so people can walk across intersections and roadways safely. That safety is compromised when drivers fail to yield to pedestrians where signs are posted or lights are flashing.

On Kingsway Drive, behind Fairview Park Mall in Kitchener, there is a pedestrian crossover. A crossover is the same as a crosswalk except it crosses a roadway and has flashing lights to indicate the person's intent to cross.

I was using this crossover last week, along with my sister and fiancé, when a driver decided he was going to accelerate instead of stop. When we pushed the button for the lights to flash he was a good distance away in order to stop safely, so my fiancé started to cross the road. If I hadn't warned him about the oncoming car, he would have been hit.

After a few obscenities were expressed, we started to discuss how often drivers don't stop for pedestrians. This crossover is a very noticeable one with flashing lights, yet drivers often don't stop to allow pedestrians to cross.

Since I work at the mall, I cross Kingsway Drive almost every day, and I take the crossover every time. And, every time I cross it, at least one or two drivers do not stop right away.

Over time I have learned not to cross until I am absolutely sure the vehicle is going to come to a stop.

Olaf Heinzel, public affairs coordinator for the Waterloo Regional Police Service, says it is up to both the driver and the pedestrian to ensure a safe crossing. "We strongly encourage pedestrians to make sure the car is stopping before crossing," he says. "(Pedestrians) need to indicate a desire to want to use the road. Lights and signs don't stop everyone."

Al Hunter, chief of security for Conestoga College, agrees. He says students need to be aware of their surroundings when crossing a roadway. "Stop before crossing a

crosswalk and make sure you can enter safely. Indicate your intentions to cross by holding out your hand." Hunter suggests students make sure the car sees them before attempting to cross.

He also says the college has been fortunate not to have any injuries in the last five years due to a pedestrian crossing a roadway.

If a driver were caught with failing to yield for a pedestrian on campus, they would not be subject to the Highway Traffic Act because the college is private property. Instead, students could be subject to an infraction, which could mean anything from a warning to expulsion.

If drivers fail to yield for pedestrians in the city, they would be subject to the Highway Traffic Act. The standard fine is \$90 plus court costs for a total of \$110. The driver would also get three demerit

points added to their driving record.

Heinzel says that if there is a complaint about a driver failing to yield for pedestrians at a crosswalk, police will monitor the area. "If there are offenders in the area, we usually get them repeating the act within a few days."

Hunter says speed is the main reason drivers fail to yield at Conestoga. "The speed limit is 15 km/h and we frequently see people exceeding that."

He also says the biggest thing is to educate both pedestrians and drivers about the safe use of crosswalks.

Ultimately, both Heinzel and Hunter want to express that when it comes down to it, the pedestrian always has the right of way. Pedestrians must make sure to look out for their own safety, but in a driver versus pedestrian situation, the driver must yield.



(Photo by Michelle Taylor)

Pedestrians must ensure their own safety when crossing a crosswalk by indicating their intentions to the drivers. They exist so people can walk across intersections and roadways safely.

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Josey Vogels a sex-talking success

Students packed the Sanctuary for sex advice

By DAWN HASSEN

Men worry about the size of their penis; women worry because they have yet to experience an orgasm. Who can they go to for advice?

These are the most common questions Josey Vogels is asked. Vogels writes her own column, *My Messy Bedroom*, which appears in several Canadian magazines such as *Echo*, *Post*, *Hour* and *Pulse*. The column also appears in *New York's Free Spirit*. She is Canada's most widely read sex and relationships columnist, and she came to the Sanctuary Feb. 10 to talk about sex.

And the students loved it.

"We've always had these sex people come in and I think it's a human fascination," said Ethan Miller, vice-president of student activities for Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI). "Students are at the age where they're doing a lot of experimenting and I think when somebody comes in and talks about the issues and implications regarding sex, it's important, and there's a huge demand for it."

Vogels started the show with four volunteers who went up on stage and blew up condoms. The person who blew his up the largest received a penis-shaped candle. Next, Vogels told us about her life as a 14-year-old small-town gal



who lost her virginity in the hay. Literally.

Miller felt the students really related to her, and weren't upset that Sue Johansen wasn't booked.

"For me, sexuality is really a part of who we are."

*Josey Vogels,
sex columnist*

Johansen, who usually comes to the school, is the host of the Sunday Night Sex Show, a call-in advice show that airs on the Women's Television Network.

"Josey tends to relate to the college crowd a little bit better. I think students are just that much

more encouraged and inspired to ask questions and take the information beyond something that has comedic value," said Miller.

Vogels had three rounds of "game shows" where a guy and girl would take the stage to answer sex-related questions. She had prizes for each competition, which included a vagina-shaped candle, a copy of her book *Dating: A Survival Guide* and a set of dice with commands such as kiss me. The last and most shocking adventure

was when eight volunteers took the stage, where they were partnered off and given a flavoured condom and a cucumber. With one partner's hands held behind his or her back, the other person put the condom on the cucumber, which was located between his or her partners' legs.

Vogels ended the show by answering question cards the students piled at the end of the stage.

The 39-year-old has a total of four books available on sex, dating and relationships.

"For me, sexuality is really a part of who we are. I think writing about sex is as important as writing about politics or writing about anything else," said Vogels. "I think it's really important for us to explore that part of ourselves."

Her first two books came out of



(Photo by Dawn Hassen)

Josey Vogels had four volunteers blow up condoms at the beginning of her show on Feb. 10. Vogels is a sex columnist who really related to the students at Conestoga College. She also writes her own column, *My Messy Bedroom*, which appears in several Canadian magazines such as *Echo*, *Hour* and *Pulse*.

her columns. Her dating book was written on how to help people find that special someone and deal with the most common problems when they are dating.

"I usually get questions from people who are in long-term relationships and are trying to keep things exciting," said Vogels. "I get questions from people who have a particular sexual fantasy and they don't feel comfortable sharing it with their partner or their partner isn't comfortable with their fantasies and how you deal with those differences in those relationships."

Vogels was a journalist who chose to be a sex columnist because it was the one thing she stuck to the longest in her career.

"The cornerstone of good sex is communication," said Vogels. "If there are differences in what your needs are sexually or if needs aren't being met obviously you have to talk about them. There is a lot of give and take that has to happen."

Vogels enjoys people like Sue Johansen who are open about their sexuality.

the differences between the renowned sex talkers.

"I'm coming from a journalism background; she's coming from a background as a nurse," said Vogels. "I tend to try and approach it more culturally and a lot of the research I do is in various aspects of sexuality and I think her focus is on sexual health."

"The cornerstone of good sex is communication."

*Josey Vogels,
sex columnist*

CSI plans to invite a sex talker at the college every year, although they don't know who it will be next year.

"You need somebody who is in tune with the issues that college students face," said Miller. "The main reason why we went with Josey Vogels as opposed to Sue is I think we're dealing with an age demographic at this college that is a lot younger."

As for Vogels, she is speaking at various colleges in Montreal. In April, there will be a documentary about her on the WB network called the *Secret Language of Girls*.

She also has a new book coming out in May called *Bedside Manners: Sex Etiquette Made Easy*.

"It has all the answers to those awkward situations like what do you do when someone lets one while you're having sex or what do you do when you have your period in the middle of it," said Vogels. "It's going to be about the simple things like how to ask for what you want but do it in a polite, tactful manner."

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Final Exams

Whether to panic or to prepare. Whether to sulk or to study. Whether to become enlightened or to remain in the dark, hoping for the best. How you use your time and energy is up to you and will determine your level of success or failure.

To go into the exam period with your eyes wide open, you need to know:

- how many exams you have and in which subjects;
- when, where and for how long they are scheduled;
- what material will be covered with emphasis on which areas;
- what format the exam will have (multiple choice, essay, short answer);
- what percentage of your final mark the exam covers.

About three weeks before exams start, mark the times and locations of each exam on a calendar. For each course, list what you need to study and the sources you will use (textbook, class notes, lab. assignments). Estimate the amount of study time you will need and indicate study periods on the calendar. By planning ahead, you know you will have time for each subject.

Use all sources of help available to you: old exams, classmates, study groups, class review time, text notes or highlighted sections, text summaries and chapter questions. Ask your faculty for help and information about the exam.

Avoid common mistakes:

- over-studying for the first exam and running out of time and energy for the others;
- working hard for the course(s) you like and neglecting others;
- not starting early enough, leaving too little time during exam week.

If you would like assistance in preparing for final exams, come to the Student Services office, or attend one of our workshops:

"Preparing for Final Exams"

A Message from Student Services



"The thing we have in common is that we're very sex-positive and we think it's important to arm people with as much information as possible when it comes to sex," said Vogels.

But she is also quick to point out

Canadian ice experts: go figure

By JASON MIDDLETON

Only in Canada could there be a company that makes 2.7-million kilograms of carving ice per year.

Ice Culture Inc. has been doing just that with only 15 employees and a lot of winter coats.

Based in Hensall, Ont., an hour and a half west of Kitchener, the company produces everything from ice sculptures and ice armchairs to phallic symbols for bachelor and bachelorette parties.

At Waterloo's first Ice Dogs winter festival on Feb. 14, Ice Culture created a sculpture of a howling wolf, an ice maze, a podium for the concession stand and an Inuit dogsledder with two dogs.

It took four hours to build the maze and a whole day to build the Inuit dog sled team.

The company recently designed the ice sculptures and accessories for the welcoming reception for Conan O'Brien.

"Of course, Conan makes all the jokes about Canadians living in igloos. So we decided to show him a more funky, contemporary way that Canadians do ice," said eight-year employee Heidi Bayley.

To create the cool as ice party scene, the company used 100 blocks of ice, each weighing 136 kilograms, to build a giant ice bar, logos, a giant backdrop, armchairs, coffee tables, big walls and giant pillars that were 2.5 metres high.

Bayley said, "It was a massive undertaking."

They also built a luge for the bar so that drinks could be poured down into your glass.

Bayley said, "It was a beautiful display. Absolutely stunning."

It typically takes three days to build one of the ice blocks that are used to make ice sculptures. Before being frozen the water is purified to eliminate minerals and dirt.

The block of ice is frozen in a tank from the bottom up to prevent ice bubbles.

As well as doing weddings, corporate events, winter carnivals and parties, Ice Culture also does promotions for companies.

Recently, Nike asked them to freeze 50 of their new winter running shoes in blocks of ice, which would be randomly placed throughout Chicago for a contest where people would have to find the hidden shoes.

Bayley, whose father runs the company, said, "We were only sent left shoes. I guess it was so we couldn't run away with them."

The ice produced by Ice Culture is shipped around the world.

Like any company, Ice Culture has slipped on some projects.

The CBC asked them to build a giant logo for display in a studio.

"They had their studio lights on it all day and they weren't supposed to. The logo came crashing down in the middle of a studio," said Bayley.

"We've been really lucky and spend a lot of time planning to avoid disasters," she said, adding safety always comes first.



(Photo by Jason Middleton)

Rachelle Klumpenhower, an employee of Ice Culture Inc., carves a howling dog out of ice at the Ice Dog festival in Waterloo, Feb. 14. Ice Culture produces 2.7-million kilograms of carving ice a year.

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Feature



(Photos by Jennifer Ormston)

This abstract painting, titled George Bernard Shaw (above), is by artist Robert F. Brown. Several other works of art by Brown are on display at the Homer Watson House and Gallery at 1745 Old Mill Rd. in Kitchener.

Janet Panabaker's Gilded Windows display (top right) looks like colourful stained glass windows. An entire room at the Homer Watson House and Gallery, which is just minutes from Conestoga, is devoted to the artist's paintings.

Many vibrant paintings by Pat Eaves-Brown and her husband Robert Brown (bottom right) are now on display at the gallery.

New display at local gallery 'unbelievable'

By JENNIFER ORMSTON

After taking only a few steps into the Homer Watson House and Gallery, you'll be glad you came to see their latest exhibit.

Vivid colours splashed across large canvases can be seen in all directions.

The gallery's new winter exhibition includes the works of four local artists: Pat Eaves-Brown and her husband Robert Brown, Janet Panabaker and Sheila McMath.

The Browns' pieces, titled Faces and Flowers, are displayed together in the gallery's main room; Pat's paintings include abstract floral pieces and images of dolls, while Robert's are portraits and some abstract floral paintings as well.

Although these pieces are by two different people, they work amazingly well together, said Tiffani Tyo, exhibition curator at the gallery, about this brightly hued display.

"I'm not a huge fan of abstract pieces, but some of Pat's floral abstracts are unbelievable."

The pieces in Panabaker's Gilded Windows collection are reminiscent of stained glass windows.

However, they are actually intensely bright paintings on canvas.

"They're symmetrical," said Tyo. "And they're vibrantly coloured with a varnish finish that makes them really stand out."

In the gallery's smallest room, McMath's unique exhibit is on display. Her works are not like the paintings in the other rooms; instead, they can best be summarized by the title of the display: Needles.

"My intention is to construct objects that are both sensually enticing and thought-provoking, and both beautiful and troubling."

*Sheila McMath,
artist*

Basically what she does is take pieces of fabric, tear them apart and reassemble them. Some of the pieces actually have needles left in them, said Tyo.

In her artist's statement, McMath said, "My intention is to construct

objects that are both sensually enticing and thought-provoking, both beautiful and troubling."

Her objectives are certainly achieved in this truly distinctive display.

Tyo said she believes Conestoga College students would enjoy this exhibit because it has a lot of abstract work.

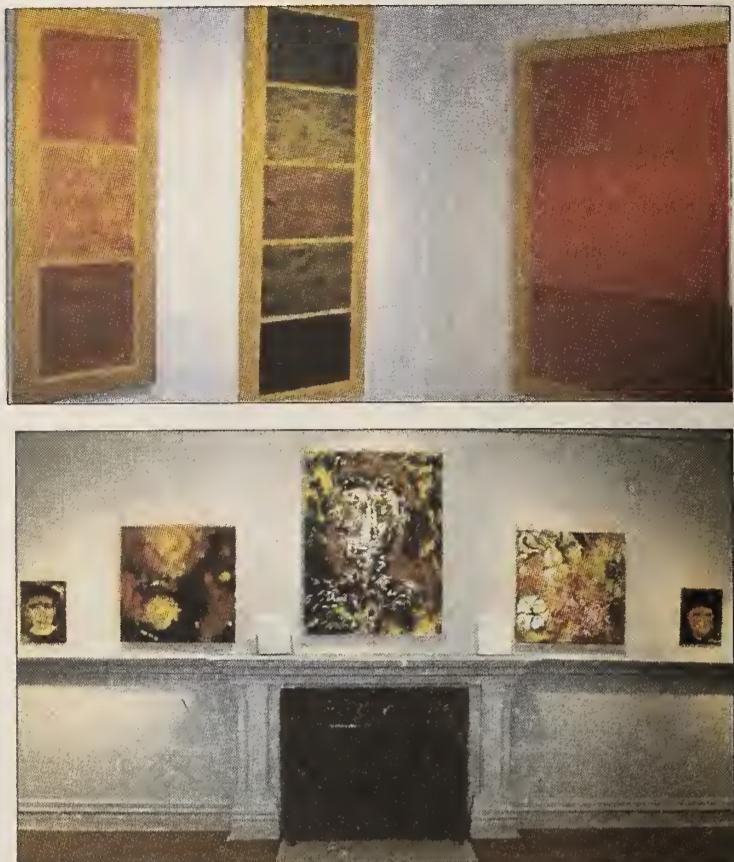
McMath's pieces in particular may appeal to students because they are so different.

"It makes you try to imagine what the pieces were before she broke them down and recreated them," she said. "I think students would really enjoy it."

This exhibit runs until March 14. It will be followed by the spring exhibition, which will include figure drawings, masks and clay figure sculptures.

The Homer Watson House and Gallery is conveniently located close to the college's Doon campus, at 1754 Old Mill Rd., in Kitchener. Admission is a suggested \$3 donation.

For more information on this and other exhibits, contact Tyo at (519) 748-4377 ext. 233 or visit the gallery's website at www.homerwatson.on.ca.



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H&R BLOCK

Indy music takes over Sanctuary

Moonraker, Asher, Vacuity, Handheld and 3play performed live on Friday the 13th

By CARRIE HOTO

Passion-filled music bounced off the walls of the Sanctuary on Friday the 13th.

Five bands showcased their talent to a captivated crowd. Three Kitchener bands — Asher, Vacuity and Handheld — 3play from Guelph and Toronto's Moonraker all volunteered their time to raise money for an early childhood education (ECE) exhibit.

The crowd listened attentively when Moonraker took centre stage; it's safe to say they stole the show.

Originally from Montreal, Moonraker moved to Toronto just five months ago to get their foot in the door of record companies.

"There's not much going on for the industry (in Montreal). I mean you can play gigs there but there's nobody from the industry going to come see us," said Matt Joly, the lead singer of Moonraker.

"The feeling we get when we go on stage is like if we were hockey players and it was the seventh game of the Stanley Cup. We are confident, we want to win each time."

*Craig Brais,
Moonraker*

Joly said most musicians from Montreal, like Sam Roberts, get signed by a record label in Toronto.

"If you live in Toronto you have a lot more opportunity to play," he said. The band has been playing about one or two shows a week since their decision to relocate.

Joly, Christian "Craig" Brais, Frank Williamson, Dominic Viola and Pierre Hamelin make up the band. The five have been playing

together for almost 20 years, but have been calling themselves Moonraker since 1998. The guys share a two-bedroom loft apartment in Toronto and say they don't really get on each other's nerves.

"We're here for the same reasons," Joly said.

Moonraker got its first big break in Montreal and have slowly been gaining attention ever since.

"We won a radio contest back in 2001 and after that we had the chance to record three songs with Mark Makoway from Moist."

Moonraker has already had quite a bit of success since '98. Probably the biggest band they opened for is the Tragically Hip, at an outdoor concert in front of 3,000 people.

"We were impressed; we've never played in a big venue like that. Gordon Downie from the Tragically Hip came to see us after the gig and he said he liked our band. It was really nice to talk to him," Joly said.

They also opened for Bif Naked and Econoline Crush.

The band agrees their studio music doesn't do them justice; the stage is where they belong.

"For our first shows in front of our friends we were nervous. In Toronto we play once a week, so coming here tonight is just cool," said Williamson.

Williamson added he might get anxious again when they perform in Montreal because their friends and family will be expecting them to be so much better.

The band definitely created a buzz in the Sanctuary. Heads were bobbing and feet were tapping along to the tunes and as soon as Moonraker performed the Police's Message in a Bottle, people joined right in by mouthing along.

"The feeling we get when we go on stage is like if we were hockey

players and it was the seventh game of the Stanley Cup. We are confident, we want to win each time," said Brais.

"It's the right feeling when we go on stage."

Back in their hometown, tickets to

Moonraker's shows were sold out a week in advance. Although the Sanctuary wasn't sold out, about 80 people turned out to raise money for a good cause.

(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

Vacuity of Kitchener, hopes the Sanctuary holds more live music events so they can come back. Shown here, is the lead singer of the band.

All the proceeds from the show went to the early childhood education (ECE) program.

"We organized this event to raise money for a photo exhibit on family diversity," said Hilary Greb, co-organizer and first-year ECE student.

The exhibit was showcased at the school on Jan. 14. After expenses, the organizers raised \$250 to cover the cost of having the exhibit at Conestoga.

"Part of our program is diversity. It was here to keep people aware that not every family is made up of one mom, one dad and 2.5 kids."

Greb, along with Ashly Tye-Robins, organized and planned the event. They advertised band auditions around the school and started their own website: kitchenerconcerts.com. All bands auditioned before playing in the Sanctuary. Tickets were \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door.

"We expected two people to show up," said Tye-Robins.

"I'm ecstatic; I'm very impressed with the amount of people that came out."

Wayne Morris, the chair of the school of health sciences, and Lana Hardacre, development teacher, also showed their support by coming out to the event.

(Photo by Carrie Hoto)
3play was one of the five bands to hit the Sanctuary on Friday the 13th. Dave Huber, the lead singer, played the Wide Mouth Mason cover, This Morning.



(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

Matt Joly, lead singer of Moonraker, belts out heavy, passionate lyrics. The Toronto-based band opened for the Tragically Hip at an outdoor concert in 2000.



(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

Local band, Asher played for a crowd of about 80 people in the Sanctuary. All bands volunteered to play and the money raised was used for an exhibit, put on by the ECE program. The exhibit was displayed at the college in January.



(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

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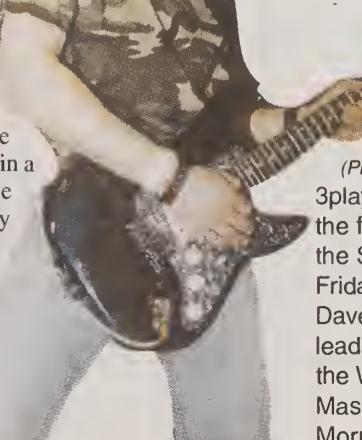
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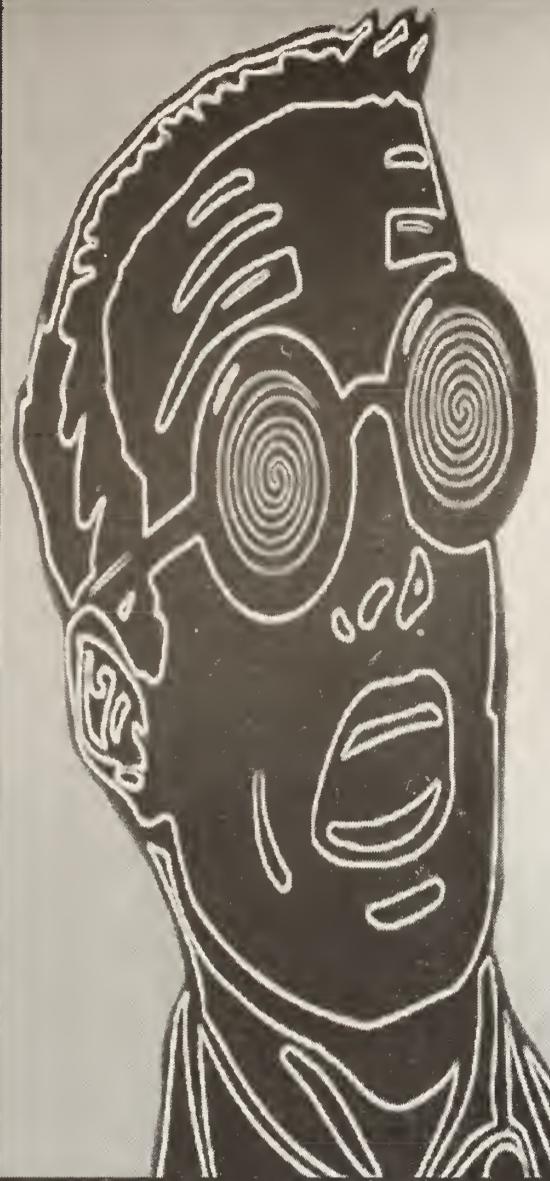
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(Photo by Carrie Hoto)

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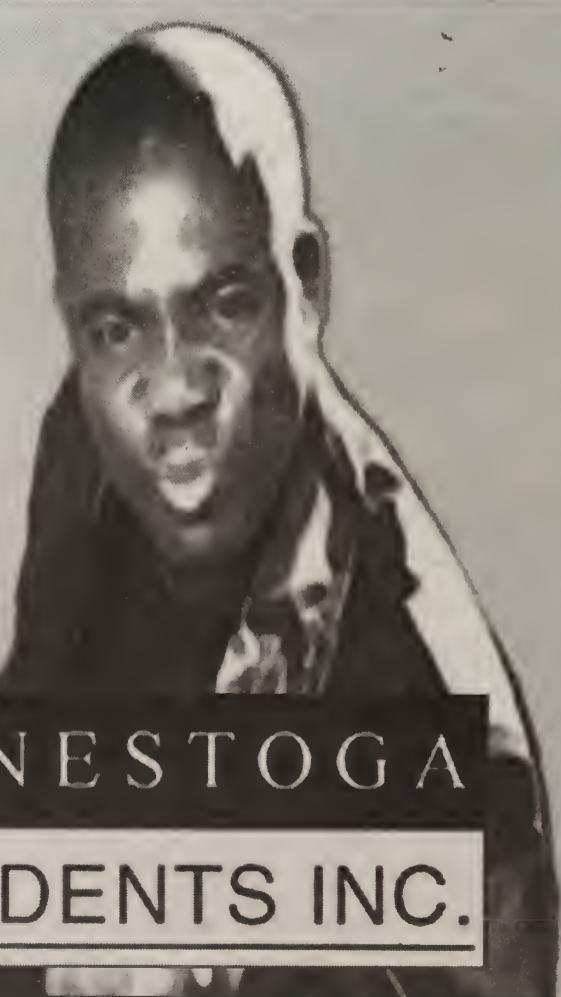
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Snow removal a blow to pocketbook

By DARREN SMITH

It cost Conestoga College's Doon campus more than \$7,500 to dig out after the Jan. 27 snowstorm.

The money was paid to an outside contractor, and does not include the wages of any Conestoga employees who also cleared lots.

Barry Milner, physical resources manager, said Conestoga staff put in a normal workday and more than 16 hours of overtime clearing snow.

"People worked almost around the clock to get things ready again for classes," said Milner.

The college used their 5200 John Deere tractor with a front bucket and rear blower and three John Deere units with a brush or blower option for the front and sanders on the back. The college also had a truck with a blade and sander out.

The amount of snow at the time the decision was made to close the campus was not an issue Milner said. All the parking lots were cleared for the morning. The school was closed primarily due to the fact the weather couldn't be predicted later in the day.

People may have been able to get to the campus but there may have been problems in getting them out due to the snow that was expected, he said.

"It would be difficult getting the snow cleared for the next day if the lots were full of cars," said Milner, adding this is taken into consideration when making the decision to close the school.

The cost of snow removal last year at the Doon campus was a little over \$30 per parking space. Snow removal contracts are done on an hourly basis and not for the whole season.

"This is a common misconception as people think they can get a better price paying seasonal," said Milner.

He said if contractors are hired for a particular amount of money each year they may lose out. If in November, December and January there is more snow than anticipated the contractor could have used up all money allotted for the contract. Despite the lack of money they would still have to honour the rest of their contract for February and March.

"As a result you will not get good service in the later months," Milner said.

In these situations contractors will be there when they get there, he said, and Conestoga has experienced this at one of their campuses in the past.

By having contract work based on hourly rates you will get a good rate if there's less snow.

For the last 10 years the lowest cost for snow removal was in the 1999/2000-winter season at \$14.16 per parking space. The highest has been \$31.26 per space. When calculating future budgets financial averages are taken in order to make an educated guess. The highest numbers are not necessarily used as this will throw out the budget.

Plowing equipment isn't the only avenue used by Conestoga for removing and dealing with snow.

Peter Schleli, who is part of Conestoga's maintenance team, said during an average season 122 tonnes of salt is used. However, salt does not work in extreme cold. Once the temperature gets to around -12 C salt begins to lose its effectiveness, he said.

"At -15 C it becomes useless," said Schleli, "unless you just dump it in huge capacities."

Cities will dump large amounts of salt on roads and traffic helps to distribute and work it into the ice. This also creates brine, which is a salt-water solution that further helps in melting ice and snow. However, in colder temperatures the brine also refreezes, making salt useless in really cold weather.

A mixture of sand and salt called pickled sand is also used around the campus. This is used on icy conditions as it provides better vehicle traction.

In the spring physical resources may contact municipalities to review the new methods being used instead of salt.

One alternative to salt is a sugar beat solution being tested in Milton. The county of Wellington is experimenting with other products as well, Milner said.

He is hoping to be able to tie into some of the programs to find out how the new methods are working.

"If we can eliminate some of the environmental concerns we are prepared to do that," said Milner.

One of the concerns associated with the use of salt around the college is possible ground water contamination. This is not just with the college but also with salt use everywhere.

"The high sodium content in our waterways in time could have an effect on the ground water," said Schleli.

At the same time the flow of various rivers flushes a lot of it out and keeps it moving.

Salt damage on campus occurs on the grass around sidewalks and areas where snow banks were.

Salt is an abrasive, non-friendly product as far as turf is concerned, Schleli said.

The college has experimented with other de-icing products over the years and uses one such product on the sidewalks.

How the product affects the inside of the campus is taken into consideration as well. Salt is not good for concrete and the college could be faced with future problems with sidewalks.

The college used to use a lot of pickled sand but found it marked the floors.

Ombudsperson a possibility

By CHRISTINA BRAMBURGER

CSI has made it one of their priorities to look into the possibility of having an ombudsperson on campus.

An ombudsperson would be a third-party investigator of student complaints.

"They are basically an ear for students," says CSI president Justin Falconer.

The unique thing about the ombudsperson is they are impartial. The autonomy of the ombudsperson is one of the most important things.

They could investigate, at the request of any student, a matter that involves the college or a matter that involves CSI, says Falconer. "If there's a complaint about what CSI is doing on campus, a student can go to the ombudsperson instead of coming in here directly and that person can always be of assistance."

Falconer says he looks at what the college has now and there isn't anyone in the college whose job is to follow policy or ensure that all the policies are followed. If a student had an issue now, they could go to a number of different areas, but there's no one place where the CSI or the college can direct students.

"I think that anything that takes a fragmented approach and solidifies it into a clear obvious path is defi-

nitely a good step for students."

Falconer says he thinks the ombudsperson would probably end up reporting to a group that is a lot more formal than CSI, such as the board of governors.

The CSI thinks this would be another valuable student service that Conestoga could offer.

Falconer says he thinks the college is receptive to the idea at this point. However, "I don't think they're running out and hiring this person."

This is something the college looked into a number of years ago, but at that time it was felt it was not needed just yet.

Generally what happens at other colleges is that the student association and the college share the cost of the office for the ombudsperson. This way not one side puts in more than the other and it's balanced.

Falconer says everyone would have equal say when it comes to hiring the ombudsperson, including the faculty union, the student association, as well as the college, "so everyone agrees what the final picture of the ombudsperson would be on campus; the ins, the outs and what the person would do in different scenarios."

All that would have to be decided before someone was hired for the position.

"I'm glad that we may possibly

put something in place now that will be able to protect students for a long time coming," says Falconer.

"I'm excited to be a part of that this year with the board and I think the board is really happy with selecting that as one of their annual priorities."

However, there will probably be a little bit of resistance from some people, Falconer says.

"There will probably be a few people in CSI, the college, and the faculty union and the faculty workforce that will be a little bit iffy on this."

Falconer says there's a possibility of the position being in place by September. Conestoga would look for someone they thought would be impartial, take the role seriously and be able to develop the role a little bit more, says Falconer.

"When you define a job description at first and you've never had a person like that before, eventually, over time, that person might grow out of that initial job design or find that their role changes."

He says he thinks there is a lot of work that has to be done with both the faculty as well as the college on defining the end role for an ombudsperson.

"There's a very, very good possibility that this is probably going to be one of the best decisions that everyone in the college could make for students."

Say it with tulips

By JENNIFER ORNSTON

Spring is almost in the air.

And what better way to celebrate the near arrival of April showers than by purchasing a bunch of tulips for only \$6 in support of the Lung Association.

This Wednesday is Tulip Day, a day when the Waterloo Region Lung Association hopes to sell 7,000 bunches of tulips as part of their general fundraising campaign.

"Tulip Day is a terrific opportunity to bring some hope, not only to those who suffer from lung disease, but also to those who think winter may never end," said Michele Breault, development coordinator of the local association.

The Waterloo Region Lung Association is the reigning office for the highest sales in the province, with 6,500 bunches sold last year.

"We're the ones to beat," said Breault.

This year the sale goal has been increased, but 5,000 bunches have already been pre-sold so there are only 2,000 left to be bought.

Purchasing a bunch of tulips on March 3 not only helps the Lung Association get one step closer to achieving its goal, but it also helps to brighten the buyer's day.

"We could all use a breath of spring around now," said Breault.

Proceeds from the sales will go to the Lung Association's asthma, air quality, chronic obstructive pul-

monary disease and tobacco programs.

For those wondering why the tulip was picked instead of another flower, like roses or lilies, the answer is simple.

"Tulips are the least invasive to people with allergies and asthma," said Breault. "Plus, no other charities use them."

Breault said Conestoga College students should be made aware about lung diseases because students are increasingly suffering from them.

First-year students in particular often have trouble with asthma, she said.

"They may have had their asthma under control before they left home, but once they move into a new environment, their symptoms often flare up as new triggers are created."

Lifestyle changes, stress, unhealthy eating and being in more smoky environments are some of the new triggers that can emerge.

Students who notice this happening should go to health services or see a doctor immediately.

The Lung Association is looking for Conestoga College students who are willing to volunteer in the event on March 3, 4 and 5.

For more information, contact Breault at 886-8100.

To learn more about lung diseases, smoking and other lung-related issues, go to www.on.lung.ca.

ELECTION CALL

CONESTOGA STUDENTS INC.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

NOMINATIONS

“...to enhance student satisfaction through active college and community awareness.”

Nomination period opens March 1 - closes noon March 8th. Nomination packages will be available March 1 at the CSI office.

Must be willing to devote 5 hours per week to CSI business, i.e. board meetings, committee meetings, etc.

Willing to write, interpret and develop policy. Link with students -- bring ideas to the Board from the students. Bring information back to the students from CSI Board or the college. Provide visionary leadership for future years.

PLEASE NOTE: NOMINATION PERIODS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO PENDING FACULTY STRIKE.

CONESTOGA STUDENTS INC.

Don't let Jack Frost fool you

Firefighters warn house fires increase over winter

By JASON NOE

As the cold temperatures and constant snowfalls continue to plague us, there is greater danger lurking than just frostbite.

Fire.

House fires increase over the winter and fire departments believe this is due to a couple of factors.

"There are more residential fires over the winter months than the summer months because the buildings are closed," said Guelph chief fire prevention officer Ken Borghese. "Neighbours do not hear the smoke alarms sounding and they do not smell the smoke."

While most of us spend more time in our homes to avoid the cold, we may be unaware of all the comforts that have the potential to cause us harm.

"Occupants use their heating appliances more, such as furnaces, fireplaces and electric space heaters," said Borghese. "And fragrant candles are lit to mask the stale indoor smell when windows are kept closed for extended periods of time."

"Firefighting is more difficult in the winter months because equipment can freeze and water hydrants become buried under snow."

*Paul Felhaber,
Waterloo fire prevention
officer*

He points to several other igniters, which include candles, stoves, ovens, hotplates and toaster ovens that are used more frequently in the winter than in the summer, as people tend to eat warmer foods such as soup. The festive season also brings hidden dangers, such as extension cords buried under carpets or mats and combustible decorations being left in close contact with heat sources.

But when blazes do occur, firefighters also experience a tough

time combating the winter elements, which have the potential to slow down their response time.

"Firefighting is more difficult in the winter months because equipment can freeze and water hydrants become buried under snow," said Waterloo fire prevention officer Paul Felhaber. "As well, the footing is more difficult with frozen

"Occupants use their heating appliances more, such as furnaces, fireplaces and electric space heaters."

*Ken Borghese,
Guelph chief fire prevention
officer*

ground."

Also, snow and ice on walkways or paths and road conditions can hamper firefighters as they try and fight the flames. Closed buildings also provide another obstacle for crews attempting to get into a home that is burning.

"Buildings are more secure in the winter because it gets darker sooner," said Borghese.

But the greatest help to firefighters is prevention and an understanding of the consequences of fire.

"People need to maintain a working smoke alarm in their homes," said Borghese. "We recommend an alarm on each level of the home."

Borghese said having an evacuation plan every person in the house has practised could also save lives. Plus, having a backup plan if the first strategy is affected, maintaining unobstructed exits through the home and making sure doors are easy to open, will increase the chances of escaping a fire.

As most people try to keep their homes as warm and cosy as possible over the winter, they need to ensure their concealed fire dangers are exposed and corrected.

"Due to the fact that many people feel safer in their homes than anywhere else, they take dangerous liberties," said Borghese.

Tired of trying to figure things out all by yourself?

**Then Peer-Supported Learning Groups can help!
(and they're free!)**

Learning Groups are a series of **FREE weekly group study sessions** that are led by a peer tutor. They are provided for students who want to improve their understanding of course material and improve their grades. The group meets to compare notes, discuss concepts, and develop strategies.

WINTER 04 SCHEDULE

BUSINESS MATH 2

Monday 10:30-11:30 Room 1D03
Wednesday 9:30-10:30 Room 1D02
Friday 9:30-10:30 Room 1D17

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 2

Wednesday 10:30-11:30 Room 2E18
Wednesday 3:30-4:30 Room 2E18
Thursday 12:30-1:30 Room 2E25

ENGINEERING MATH 2

Wednesday 12:30-1:30 Room 3A625

MECHANICS OF MATERIALS

Monday 11:30-12:30 Room 2A502

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Thursday 10:30-11:30 Room 3A616

You are responsible for your own education - if you don't understand something, ASK!

It's all good.

**A different McDeal™
Everyday \$1.69**
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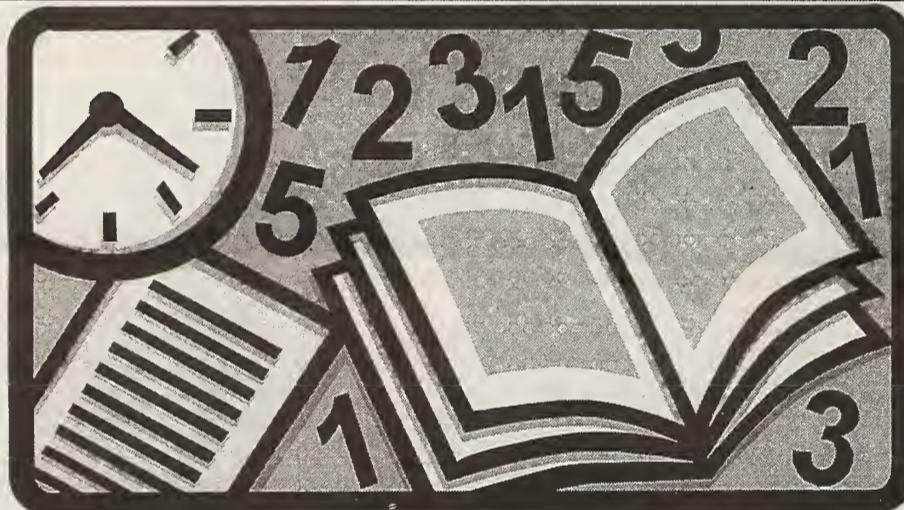
i'm lovin' it



(Photo by Christina Bramburger)

Expanding through the cold

Construction workers on the Doon campus of Conestoga College have been making good progress despite bitter cold temperatures and all the snow. The ATS building is getting a facelift and more this winter season. Luckily, workers make it known that safety is priority one while working on the site. Don't forget your hard hats everybody!



STRUGGLING WITH A COURSE ?

REQUIRE ONE TO ONE ASSISTANCE?

WANT TO REVIEW COURSE MATERIAL?



IT'S NOT TOO LATE !!

**HIRING A TUTOR MAY BE THE ANSWER
\$15.00 PROVIDES 5 HOURS OVER 6 WEEKS**

**Applications Available in Student Services
Room 2B04**

Horoscope

Horoscope

Week of Feb. 29 - March 5



**Happy
Birthday!**



Libra
September 23 -
October 22



Aries
March 21 -
April 19



Scorpio
October 23 -
November 21

You feel well rested this week. It's going to be tough to get back into the swing of things. You'll need a little extra motivation, but once you get back to the old routine, it'll be smooth sailing.

Let the past go -- get over it and live in the present. Honestly, this is where all the good parties are! You might feel a little weird stepping out in the world again, but you'll feel better soon.



Taurus
April 20 - May 20



Sagittarius
November 22 -
December 21

You'll be climbing toward the top today, but make sure you watch where you step to get there. Slow down that engine a little and you'll keep from making new enemies. No one likes an egomaniac!

It's time to make that big decision you've been putting off for a while. Despite that attention span, you are focused. Use your smarts and your willpower. You'll be in the best position to choose wisely.



Gemini
May 21 - June 21



Capricorn
December 22 -
January 19

Keep it real today. Search for other points of view or opinions from someone unexpected. Words of wisdom will be flying around - keep your ears open. You'll see a new view of an ongoing problem.

Get that hand out of the piggy bank! It's important not to spend a penny today unless it's a matter of life and death. Instead, use your time to be creative. Don't buy anything or worry about finances.



Cancer
June 22 - July 22



Aquarius
January 20 -
February 18

Shake the cobwebs out of your head - you'll need to live in the present to get total clarity. A friend will get bossy with you, but it shouldn't last long. Slap a smile on your face and deal with it.

It's not your birthday, but feels like it. Everyone is looking your way! You'll get some well-deserved props, and you feel like dancing all day long. Try talking to people you wouldn't normally.



Leo
July 23 - August 22



Pisces
February 19 -
March 20

Feeling a little off-balance are we? Well, it's not all bad news. You may opt for just hiding out this week, but problems at school or work will need quick attention to keep from getting worse.

Watch it! You need to restrain your crazy impulses, to make it through the day without anyone getting mad at you. Temps will be rising to the surface and aimed at you if you don't play it cool.



Virgo
August 23 -
September 22



Diana O'Neill is a third-year journalism student who dabbles with astrology and likes to read tarot cards just for kicks.

Stick to your guns today. It's not in your agenda this week to back down. People around you need help and won't want to hear about how awesome things are for you. Listen up and get busy helping.



Virgo
August 23 -
September 22



Diana O'Neill is a third-year journalism student who dabbles with astrology and likes to read tarot cards just for kicks.

Barbie's a new swinging single

By JENNIFER HOWDEN

The unthinkable has happened. After 43 years together Barbie and Ken have called it quits.

Russell Arons, vice-president of marketing at Mattel, said Barbie and Ken "feel it's time to spend some quality time apart."

"Like other celebrity couples, their Hollywood romance has come to an end," said Arons, who quickly added the duo "will remain friends."

The famous couple first met on the set of their first television commercial in 1961. Since then, the couple has portrayed many famous characters such as Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler from *Gone with the Wind* and Romeo and Juliet. They can also be seen in three successful Number 1 movies — Barbie of *Swan Lake*, Barbie as Rapunzel and Barbie in the *Nutcracker*. Also, they just finished wrapping their fourth movie together, Barbie as *The Princess and the Pauper*, which debuts this fall.

So, what's a girl to do now that she's single?

Barbie got herself a new look.

The new Cali (short for California Girl) Barbie wears

board shorts and a bikini top, metal hoop earrings, and has a deeper tan.

Arons denies any truth to the rumours that the breakup had anything to do with Barbie's new look but the new look has already grabbed the attention of a new man — Blaine, the Australian boogie boarder.

"Like other celebrity couples, their Hollywood romance has come to an end."

*Russell Arons,
marketing vice-president*

Blaine is a bleached-blond Aussie who sports beige shorts, an open blue shirt over a long-sleeved shirt, a shell necklace and hiking boots. He's every Barbie's dream man.

Arons hinted the breakup may have had something to do with Ken's reluctance to get married and that those bridal Barbie dolls are really just examples of Barbie's wishful thinking.

Another possible factor is Barbie's career, which Ken just

couldn't keep up with. After all, she's been a teacher, a doctor, a rock star, an actor, a mermaid, a fairy, a ballerina, a princess, Wonder Woman and a veterinarian, just to name a few. It would be hard for anyone to keep up with that.

Or maybe Barbie just didn't have time for Ken. She is currently marketed in more than 150 countries and according to Mattel, every second, three Barbie dolls are sold somewhere in the world. Who has time for romance when you're that busy?

Conestoga students had their own opinions about the breakup.

Second-year broadcast student Kathy Carr, 19, said Barbie's new man could make a huge difference in her life.

"This new guy could make things interesting. Maybe now Barbie can actually get married," she said.

Second-year broadcast student Jeremy Brick, 20, said he is on Ken's side.

"Ken got royally screwed," he said. "Barbie has the car and the house, he has nothing."

Besides the new Cali Barbie Brick has a suggestion for another new Barbie. "As long as they make a bitter, bitchy Barbie to go along



(Photo by Jennifer Howden)

Barbie and Ken have called it quits after 43 years.

with the breakup that's all that matters," he said.

First-year journalism student Nikki Deak, 18, said the whole thing is a little silly.

"The idea of two plastic people breaking up like real people seems

a bit childish," she said. Deak also thinks it's about time for the new-look Barbie. "The old Barbie was for the older generation. Kids are growing up faster these days and the new look Barbie is for the new generation," she said.

Rim-rocking dunks prove that Shaq is back

By NICK HORTON

The Shaq attack is back!

Shaquille O'Neal made everyone remember why he is the most dominant player in the NBA and he did it in front of Tim Duncan, Kevin Garnett and Yao Ming during the 53rd annual NBA All-Star Game.

O'Neal, who was voted MVP, dropped bombs on a star-studded Staples Center crowd in Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 15. The fortunate crowd had the pleasure of watching Shaq's rim-rocking dunks from feet away.

Rap, shoes, diamonds and Shaq joking about falling on American Idol sensation Ruben Studdard during the second half of the All-Star Game, ended an extravagant weekend.

"He (Studdard) grabbed my ass and wouldn't let go," O'Neal said in a press conference after the game.

The Shaq attack was one act in a weekend-long show that had some great moments, but a few weak scenes. The rookie game was entertaining with high scoring, a



A lot of media have been swirling around the Lakers this season, with the addition of Gary Payton and Karl Malone, and Kobe Bryant's indiscretions. The last thing the Lakers needed was for O'Neal to get injured. The big man has already missed 15 games this season due mostly to a calf injury sustained Jan. 2, but now he's back with a vengeance.

Losing his All-Star Game starting role to Houston Rockets center Yao Ming and getting shown-up by none other than Ming in a match on the Wednesday before the All-Star break, lit a fire within Shaq. O'Neal put up 24 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Western Conference over the Eastern Conference 136-132.

Big hook-ups during the game

included New Jersey's Jason Kidd and Kenyon Martin coming up huge more than once. Ming and Steve Francis made the ally-oop look easy, while Allen Iverson was busy setting up Vince Carter off the backboard.

In the end, shooting only 5-16 from the stripe killed the East in a competitive game that saw numerous lead changes and even old-school Vinsanity.

With a minimal amount of playing time, Carter pulled off three big dunks, much to the liking of P-Diddy and Aston Kutcher who applauded courtside.

Jamaal Magloire's first All-Star Game appearance added some Canadian content to the game. He was the only Canadian representative in this year's game with Carter the lone Raptor.

"I promised myself I would never come to an All-Star game unless I was playing in it," Magloire told TNT's Cheryl Miller during halftime.

Canadian musician Nelly Furtado did a poor job on the Canadian national anthem, but compared to

Christina Aguilera's butchering of the American anthem, Furtado sounded like Pavarotti.

The halftime show was one of extremes.

Magic Johnson applauded the Laker organization's great accomplishments and then introduced the next act, musician Michael McDonald, as an electrifying performance.

On queue, McDonald, an older, grey-haired bearded gentleman, started to sing and play the keyboard.

More appropriate for the setting, Beyoncé followed with a rendition of her single *Crazy in Love*, much to the appreciation of the crowd and TNT's Charles Barkley who had a few choice words after the performance.

"In America, I believe gay people should be allowed to get married, but when you see Beyoncé, why would you want to be gay?" he said.

With LeBron's indecision, an old white man performing at halftime and Barkley's comments, the NBA sure keeps the fan guessing.

Major League Baseball gearing up for spring season

By BRYAN MARTIN

It's that time of year again when Major League Baseball spring training is fast approaching.

It feels like just yesterday that the Florida Marlins were upsetting the New York Yankees for the World Series title, but we are only weeks away until teams start to practise in Florida.

This off-season has been one of the craziest in recent history with the number of trades.

Many teams were involved in free agency and the wheeling and dealing of several big-name players.

The biggest news was that Yankees owner George Steinbrenner did not re-sign pitcher Andy Pettite. Pettite then joined the Houston Astros and influenced his former teammate, Roger Clemens, who had just retired from the Yankees, to come back into the league and play one more season in his hometown of Houston.

There is good and bad news for the American League Toronto Blue Jays. The good news is they re-signed their ace Roy Halladay to a long-term contract and picked up a couple of pitchers, including Ted Lilly from the Oakland Athletics.

In the past, the Jays have been able to stay with both teams for the early part of the season, but, unfor-



The bad news is the Yankees and Boston Red Sox also made some significant changes. That is troubling because those three teams are all in the same division and the Jays don't have the payroll to compete with them.

In the past, the Jays have been able to stay with both teams for the early part of the season, but, unfor-

tunately for Toronto fans, the season is so long the Red Sox and Yankees have too much depth and tend to pull away from the Jays near the end.

In the National League, the defending World Series champions are going to be a threat to win it again.

After the Marlins won the World Series in 1997 the owner completely rebuilt his team by trading most of the players. The Florida fans were extremely angry and the team hadn't fully recovered until last year when they won the World Series.

Since then the owner promised to

keep the majority of the team so they could remain in contention in the National League.

You'd expect the Houston Astros with Clemens and Pettite to make some noise as well in the National League playoff race this year.

The Atlanta Braves have been one of the best teams for the past decade so you can't rule them out. You can also count on Barry Bonds and the San Francisco Giants to keep dominating their division in the National League and for Bonds to keep driving the ball a mile.

Presidential Election Changes

Kitchener (February 17, 2004) - Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) has had numerous student media inquires as a result of the recent changes contained in the Executive Selection Process Policy. The president for the academic year 2004-2005 will not be directly elected from the student body like in previous years. Instead, the Board will act as a hiring committee to fill this important position annually.

What were the factors contributing to the change in policy?

Students should know that the student president position at CSI has typically gone uncontested in college-wide elections. In fact, for the past two years in a row we have seen the president nominee become acclaimed. Three years ago we had 74 votes elect the student president. Low voter turnout has contributed to this change in policy. In addition to this factor, CSI has traditionally suffered from a consistency crisis. This allows for one individual to be a volunteer Director, a student president for the next year and a past-president the year thereafter. Under this change the Board can look past its one-year term and begin long-term solutions to problems traditionally not dealt with. This allows for plans like a student centre to be developed and followed through on in a consistent manner.

Why a hiring process now?

The student president is a full-time position for a student who wants to take a year off from school or wants to start the position upon graduation. This individual must have served on the previous year's CSI Board of Directors for a term as a volunteer to be eligible to run as the President incumbent. This position has signing authorities, fiduciary responsibilities and must act with due care as the voice of students when interacting with the local college administration, the community, the provincial government and the federal government. Student elections do not capture an assessment on knowledge, skills or abilities, whereas a hiring process will.

Why serve for a year before being eligible?

The Board agreed that the president incumbent must have a proper working knowledge of the corporation, if he/she was to be the figure-head of the organization on a full-time basis. Having detailed knowledge of office process, policy application and Board process were deemed as pre-requisites that were important enough to demand in any president incumbent. This standard flattens the learning curve for this successful individual - a decision implemented to protect the members and clients from non-performance.

Voice for students, how does that make sense?

The student president doesn't have reign to do as he/she wishes. He/she must work towards the priorities established by the Board and be accountable to the Board at all times. The president's role isn't a role that relies on campaign platforms or the promise of change. Students looking for that type of role need to look for those answers at the Director elections beginning in March.

Do students have a say in the President selection process?

Students still have a direct say in the selection of their president. Student Directors are elected from the student body at Conestoga who in turn act on behalf of students. Directors will select the successful individual through a standardized hiring process in search for the individual that best personifies the student body.

Directors have final say.

The Board of Directors have final say on all major decisions that exist within the corporation. Directors lead through policy creation and intervention. They monitor the performance of the president, the vice-president(s) and the general manager on an on-going basis. Directors can motion or action any change they see fit. A majority vote by the Board of Directors finalizes these decisions. Boards have the power to remove any president or vice-president at any time throughout their term. This press release acts as the official response to all inquires recently received and is issued on behalf of the CSI Board. For more information, please contact Justin Falconer, President Conestoga Students Incorporated. Phone: (519) 748-5131 Cell: (519) 577-7007 E-mail: csipres@conestogac.on.ca

**CONESTOGA
STUDENTS INC.**